

Application No. 09/606,683
Amendment and Response Dated May 28, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of January 28, 2004
Express Mail No. EV406652071US

Remarks/Arguments

The Office Action dated January 28, 2004 has been noted and its contents carefully studied. In order to facilitate consideration of the amendments made herein as a matter of right, this Response is being accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination which is concurrently being filed herewith. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection under 35 USC §102 and §103 and withdrawal of said rejections is courteously requested.

To facilitate the Examiner's reconsideration, a brief discussion of the invention as presented herein in the amended claims is provided as follows.

More specifically, the invention as now recited in amended claim 1 provides that the step of receiving a list of network resource locators provides that the list is created by identifying network resources accessed by users of the network. Yet still further, the network resource locator is sent to a graphic user interface (GUI) component of at least one Web-coding workstation (operated on by a user which is not one of the users of the network).

Similarly, claim 8 is amended to provide that the resource generator component creates a list of network resource locators from network resources accessed by users of the network. Similarly, there is at least one graphical user interface (GUI) component having tools to allow at least one user (not one of the users of the networks) to select a classification for each resource respectively identified by the resource locators of the list.

New claim 15 provides that in the method the network resource locator is sent to more than one Web-coding workstation, and wherein the classification is assigned based on receiving more than one same selection from said more than one Web-coding workstation. Claims 16 and 22 provide that the list of network resource locator(s) is sorted based on the number of unique users having accessed a resource identified by the network locator(s). Yet still further, new claim 17 provides that the network resource locator is sent to a plurality of Web-coding workstations, with each one of the plurality of Web-coding workstations, being assigned a predetermined level from lowest to highest, and wherein the classification is assigned based on receiving a first predetermined number of same selections from Web-coding workstations at the lowest level, and if the first predetermined number of same selections is not received at the lowest level, basing the classification on receiving a second predetermined number of same selections from Web-coding workstations at the next highest level, and if not received at the next

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highest level, repeating the process upward by level until a level-specific predetermined number of selections are received for one of the levels. Claim 18, further recites that the voting system is a multiple level voting system including a first level, a second level, and a third level, and wherein the classification is assigned to a network resource locator upon receipt of at least three out of four first level votes, two out of three second level votes, or one third level vote.

Claim 19 provides that the at least one graphical user interface comprises more than one graphical user interface, and the data store is connected for storing the classification therein based on more than one same classification received for each resource identified.

Claim 20 provides that the system includes the classification processor using a multiple-level voting system.

Claim 21 provides that the multiple-level voting system includes a first level, a second level and a third level and wherein a classification is assigned to a network resource locator upon receipt of at least three out of four first level votes, two out of three second level votes or one third level vote.

It is respectfully urged that the invention is now recited in the claims as not anticipated by under 35 USC §102, or obvious under 35 USC §103, from the cited references, as will become more clearly evident from the following detailed discussion of the references presented herein for the Examiner's kind consideration. It is noted that the rejections as now set forth in the Office Action are based on two newly-cited references, and a previously recited reference, all of which will be discussed in detail herein.

U.S. Patent No. 6,483,525 to Tange

U.S. Patent No. 6,483,525 to Tange (hereinafter "Tange") merely describes a browser that allows classification of bookmarks. Tange is clearly directed to a single user system on a single computer used for browsing a variety of home pages supplied from servers over a communication network. The browser is configured in greater detail to provide regions on the screen displaying classifications for data. The browser allows the carrying out of a drag and drop action to shift from any desired point in one region to one of the classifications displayed so that an address corresponding to the data displayed in the first region is stored in memory in association with a selected classification.

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Accordingly, Tange provides nothing more than a more detailed version of arranging websites which a single user would ordinarily include in their "favorites" listing as a way of avoiding having to retype the address location of websites which an individual user accesses frequently. In fact, conventional Web browsers such as Internet Explorer™, which is available from Microsoft Corporation, already have the ability to classify such websites by allowing the user to create folders named with user selected classifications, and thereafter merely adding the desired website addresses to the respective classifications created by the user.

The only difference between the existing browser technology and that disclosed in Tange is that Tange provides for folders already having been previously created with respect to classification names to avoid a user having to create their own folders.

This has nothing to do with the invention as clearly recited in the claims, which provides that the network resource locators are classified by a party who is not involved in selecting and accessing the network resources. Such network resources have been accessed by other users and identified to the classifying user by the network resource locator, features which are clearly not suggested by Tange. Yet still further, in the invention in one specific aspect the network resource locator is sent to more than one Web-coding workstation and classification is based on receiving more than one same selection. This feature is also not taught or suggested by Tange standing alone or in combination with the other references. Yet still further, there is nothing in Tange to suggest the multi-level selection system and method provided in the newly added claims which have previously discussed herein.

Thus, for the foregoing reasons, the invention as now recited in the claims is not suggested under 35 USC §102 and/or §103 from Tange alone or in combination with the other references discussed hereafter.

U.S. Patent No. 6,356,899 to Chakrabarti et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,356,899 to Chakrabarti et al. (hereinafter "Chakrabarti") provides a method which includes steps for enabling a single user to interactively create a frame-base hierarchical organizational structure for information elements, including steps for identifying and automatically filtering and ranking by relevance, information elements such as World Wide Web pages for populating the structure to form a searchable World Wide Web page database. This is

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done by the single user for him or herself. More specifically, the system and method enables the user to interactively develop a personalized database structure for information organized in accordance with the user's preferences. The user may create search queries for identifying pages which following iterative processing may be employed to populate the frames of the organizational structure. Again, as with the previously discussed Tange patent, the system and method of Chakrabarti is a single user system and method for allowing a single user to catalogue and rank information for him or herself.

There is no discussion of how web pages are selected for classification and in particular, no discussion of processing of a list of web pages visited by multiple users.

Yet still further, there is nothing in Chakrabarti which teaches or suggests assigning a classification based on receiving more than one same selection for more than one Web-coding workstation, let alone the features of having a plurality of Web-coding workstations at different levels to achieve a skilled classification for each resource visited by the users.

U.S. Patent No. 5,960,429 to Peercy et al.

U.S. Patent No. 5,960,429 to Peercy et al. (hereinafter "Peercy"), as previously discussed merely describes a method for locating web pages from a network server. A count of retrievals of the web pages is accumulated and the accumulated count and an address for web pages is stored in a record of a history log database at the server. The system sorts the list files by the number of accesses or "hits" within a log file accumulated. This has nothing to do with Applicants' claimed invention as previously discussed.

Turning now specifically to the discussion of the references in the Office Action, they are discussed as follows:

In paragraph 3, the Examiner in rejecting claims 8 and 11 under 35 USC §102(e) asserts that Tange teaches a resource generator component that creates a list of network resource locators. Contrary to the Examiner's assertions, what column 4, lines 59 – column 5, line 2 of Tange teaches is that the CPU being operated by the single user, upon receiving an input signal from a mouse operated by the user, saves the address of the homepage being displayed in the address storage which is being accessed by the individual user. This has nothing to do with the claimed resource generator component that creates a list of network resource locators for

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resources accessed by users which are not the user doing the classification for the network resources accessed by other users on a network. Yet still further, Tange fails to teach a datastore component for storing the classification information for a plurality of network resource locators. Instead, Tange provides an address registering method in which data supplied from a server on a network is displayed in a first region of the screen, and classifications for data in a second region of the same screen is provided to allow the user accessing the web page or information on the server to drop the address into a user selected desired classification. It is admitted that Tange teaches a GUI which is a conventional component in current technology. There is no teaching or suggestions of a classification processor component that receives the list of network resource locators. It is important to appreciate that Tange has nothing to do with network resource locators which are used by a classifying user, and not by a user accessing the resources, to create an accurate classification for resources accessed by users on the network.

The same comments apply with respect to the 35 USC §103 rejection of the claims, in particular with respect to the Examiner's repeated comments made with reference to the Tange reference. Whereas Chakrabarti teaches creating an information database having a hierarchical, frame-based organizational structure of the user's selection, this has nothing to do with the creation of a database of resources which have been classified by a classifier who reviews and classifies resources accessed by other users on a network.

As to Peercy, it has nothing to do with creating a list of network resource locators, as the term is properly identified and defined in Applicants' specification. What Peercy teaches is a database which includes a name or title for a web page, an http URL for the web page and a counter that is incremented every time the web page is accessed. This has nothing to do with a network resource locator which creates a listing of network resources accessed by users of the network which is then provided to the classifier at the at least one workstation, and in specific instances more than one workstation, to ensure an accurate classification of resources accessed by users on the network.

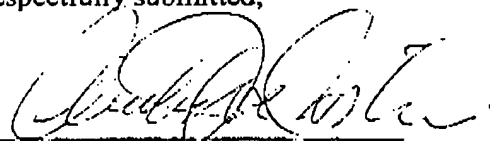
For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully urged that the claimed invention as now recited in the claims is not anticipated under 35 USC §102 or obvious under 35 USC §103 from the cited references. Thus, allowance of the claims as now presented is courteously requested.

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Nonetheless, should the Examiner have any comments, questions or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite prosecution of the application, or to place the case in condition for allowance, he is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: May 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



A. José Cortina, Reg. No. 29,733
Daniels Daniels & Verdonik, P.A.
P.O. Drawer 12218
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Voice 919.544.5444
Fax 919.544.5920
Email jcortina@d2vlaw.com

Enclosures

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